(c) the concessions proposed to be given for export of cut, loose and dried flowers to global market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) Argi Export Zones (AEZs) for flowers have been sanctioned in five States and are being set up. Details of these AEZs are given below:

| State | Disctricts covered under AEZ proposed | Investment (Rs. in crores) | Anticipated exports in 5 years (Rs. in crores) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Tamil Nadu | Dharmapuri | 24.85 | 158.76 |
| Tamil Nadu | Nilgiris | 15.88 | 109.88 |
| Karnataka | Bangalore (Urban), Bangalore (Rural), Kolar, Tumkur, Kodagu and Belgaum | 29.28 | 312.50 |
| Maharashtra | Pune, Nasik, Kolhapur and Sangli | 17.89 | 75.00 |
| Uttaranchal | Dehradun, Pantnagar, Udhamsingh Nagar, Nainital and Uttarkashi | 13.76 | 28.28 |
| Sikkim | East Sikkim | 32.31 | 45.08 |

(c) APEDA is providing financial assistance to exporters of scheduled products including flowers through its plan schemes approved by the Government for Market Development, Infrastructure Development, Quality Development, Research and Development, Transport Assistance and Planting Material.

**Tea auctions**

1170. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from some tea committees to bring 100 per cent of tea sales through the auctions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, Government of India have received the report of the Committee on the Tea Industry in West Bengal which includes a recommendation of 100% mandatory sale of made tea other than exports and packet tea through auction system.

(c) There are divergent views on this matter and the issue is under examination.

**Export Promotion Councils**

1171. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the administrative and financial powers vested with the Panel Chairman's/Sub-Committee of various Export Promotion Councils for carrying out activities leading to growth of exports; and

(b) if no such powers have been given how Government justify democratic functioning of the Export Promotion Councils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The artictes/bye-laws adopted by the Export Promotion Councils, on the basis of model artictes/bye-laws circulated by the Government, provide for formation of a Committee of Administration for each Council with Administrative and financial powers, among others. This Committee may, from time to time, constitute Panels/Sub-Committees to perform such functions as the Committee may lay down. Model articles/bye-laws do not provide for vesting of any administrative and financial powers with the Chairman of the Panel/Sub-Committee.

(b) \ferious provisions incorporated in the model articles/bye-laws like, voting rights of the members, procedure and meetings of the Councils/ Committees justify the democratic functioning of the Export Promotion Councils.

**Affairs of SEEPZ**

1172. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had visited Santacruz Electronics Export Promotion Zone (SEEPZ) in Mumbai recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;